

Nice turnout to say so long to the captain

Tenderloin shows up in force for Garrity's heartfelt farewell bash at Farmer Brown

BY MARK HEDIN

A CROSS-SECTION of the community — police, politicians, merchants, friends, family and residents — came out to Farmer Brown restaurant the second Tuesday in July to congratulate Tenderloin police Capt. Joe Garrity on getting promoted to commander. He'll be overseeing half of the city's 10 police districts from an office in the Hall of Justice.

"It was pretty much a unanimous decision among the deputy chiefs to bring him over. He's got tremendous respect, as he does in the community," Deputy Chief of Operations John Loftus, Garrity's new supervisor, told The Extra. "He was a natural."

District 6 Supervisor Jane Kim sponsored the event with U.C. Hastings Law School, Farmer Brown and Tenderloin Station, according to flyers.

"Everyone is here because they know how Joe has touched our lives," Kim said. "Someone who walks the beat, knows our names ... is so important."

Kim also introduced the new Tenderloin captain, Jason Cherniss, Garrity's successor. Cherniss worked undercover narcotics when the station was in the basement of the Hibernia Bank.

Sunny Angulo, Kim's aide, had procured a small 49ers helmet mounted on a stand. She had placed a "TL" logo over the Niners' and invited the guests to sign. Kim presented Garrity with the helmet and a bottle of Lagavulin single-malt scotch, the supervisor's favorite. "It tastes like pig," she announced. "That's why I like it — bacon!"

Tenants' rights advocate Latonya Jones, of the SRO Collaborative and Sisters Rize Working Group, serenaded the captain and his wife, Elizabeth, with a cappella verses of "Summertime."

And, as the July 9 date also marked the occasion of Kim's birthday, red velvet cake was served along with the hors d'oeuvres — strips of chicken and sweet potatoes and more exotic tidbits from the Farmer Brown kitchen.

Newly minted Citizens Advisory Committee member Julian Dash, whose

Holy Stitch haberdashery a few doors down, arrived in the company of some of his crew, including the artist Apex 1, whose artwork adorns the Turk Street wall across from Farmer Brown's.

Supervisor David Campos, former Supervisor Aaron Peskin, attorney Mark Rennie, TEDP interim Director Suse Nakata, and Chancellor and Dean Frank Wu and CFO David Seward of Hastings also showed up. Terrance Alan, who first worked with Garrity when former Entertainment Commissioner Alan owned the site of the Power Exchange sex club on Jones Street, was there, too.

So were Paul McCann and Will Thacher of the Ritchie Commercial real estate firm. Thacher said his family since 1937 has owned the Market Street properties across Turk from the restaurant that are to include TEDP's 950 Center for Art and Education.

Sa'adi Nasim, outreach coordinator for the Al Sabeel mosque at 48 Golden Gate Ave., said Garrity "will be really missed. He came to the community center after a spike in crime," Nasim said, and because of Garrity's efforts, "We feel safer."

Also present was Dariush Kayhan, formerly the mayor's director of Homeless Policy, now director of DPW's Bureau of Street and Environmental Services and Urban Forestry, and Showdogs co-owner David Addington, who Garrity had flagged in through the window as Addington was walking by on Turk. Ellen Parker represented the mayor's office and the ubiquitous Nulty twins, Michael and John, made their presence felt.

Dina Hilliard, TL CBD director, recalled working most closely with Garrity on Safe Passages, escorting kids through rough blocks. "He's so in touch," she said, "you forget that he's a police officer."

Alan Kregge and Kevin Stull, Thuy Marie Nguyen, a teacher at Tenderloin Elementary who with her husband has developed programs teaching kids to make and use skateboards, were there too, as well as neighborhood watchdog M.J. Isabel and Del Seymour, the Tenderloin tour guide.

Bill Palmi, Hastings' chief public safety officer, apologized to Garrity for arriving in full uniform as if he was

there on business. Palmi has famously appeared dressed as "the Elvis cop" to enliven a variety of traffic safety messages. But, on this occasion, there was no "Jailhouse Rock" to be heard. ■



PHOTO BY MARK HEDIN

New Cmdr. Joe Garrity was given a modified, mini Niners helmet, signed by his Tenderloin faithful.



PHOTO BY MARK HEDIN

Gathering for Garrity: Front row, from left: Sunny Angulo, District 6 legislative aide; Supervisor Jane Kim; Cmdr. Joe Garrity and wife Elizabeth. Back row: Christine Huynh, District 6 youth commission; John Nulty, activist; Supervisor David Campos; TL Capt. Jason Cherniss; Michael Nulty, activist; Byron Yee, former Renoir Hotel owner.

Top Tenderloin forum seeks new leader

BY MARJORIE BEGGS

THE TENDERLOIN Futures Collaborative launched in September 2001 as a reliable monthly forum for neighborhood news and concerns, big or not.

Dwindling attendance almost shut it down three years ago. A new coordinator, Susie Wong, S.F. Network Ministries' director of operations, breathed life into it, and 20 to 30 people attending again is the norm.

Now another challenge looms. Network Ministries' executive director, Rev. Glenda Hope, Collaborative moderator since its founding, is retiring Oct. 1 and the organization she's directed for 40 years is closing its doors. When it does, the Collaborative also loses Wong.

To keep the forum going, a nonpartisan organization or individual volunteer will have to take over the reins — and soon. Sept. 18 will be Hope's and Wong's last meeting.

The Collaborative was intended to foster understanding of changes taking place in the neighborhood. Presentations are made, questions asked, clarifications given, but it's not a place for arguing sides of a contentious problem, and it's not a membership organization.

The group takes no votes or positions. Meetings last only an hour and the agenda is strictly followed. People attending come away with solid information about their environs.

The moderator's and coordinator's positions are voluntary, supported by an organization's in-kind contribution to the community. TNDC did the honors before Network Ministries.

Hope's role is to keep agenda topics moving and discourage extraneous, confrontational discussion. Wong listed her responsibilities:

- Keep an ear to the ground for emerging concerns and TL news.
- Contact knowledgeable people to present the topic.
- Create the agenda, assigning times to topics. Summarize each topic. Include name and contact info of presenter.
- A week before the meeting, email the agenda and confirm attendance with presenters.
- Arrive 15 minutes before the meeting to open the Police Community Room. Set up tables and chairs. Distribute copies of the agenda and circulate attendance sheet.

Wong figures she spends about three days a month on Collaborative

business. She can be contacted at: 928-6209 or Susie@sfnetworkministries.org.

When the Collaborative was faltering in 2010, an informal poll of regular attendees found most wanted it to hang on. "The issues are still out there," Hope said at the time. "Things haven't gotten

much better in the neighborhood, even if there are more organizations."

"Still true," she says today. "It's good to have people from all different points of view and backgrounds sharing. It's an important gathering." ■

Central Market CBD doubles in size

BY JONATHAN NEWMAN

CENTRAL MARKET CBD's 16-month effort to expand ended successfully July 23 when the Board of Supervisors got the results from the ballot mailed to property owners in June. The ballot in favor sailed home a winner with 67%.

More than half the owners in the business district — 56% — did not vote, and the combined assessments of those owners in favor was less than one-third of the total assessments of \$1.18 million. Yet, with a majority of voters approving the ballot and that majority responsible for paying more than 50% of the voted assessments, the system of weighted voting carried the day. The

supes unanimously adopted the approved ballot.

The renewed and expanded Central Market CBD officially begins its 15-year span Jan. 1, but can begin collecting the assessments on 806 parcels this fiscal year. New assessment notices will be sent to property owners in a few weeks with the first installment payment due Nov. 1, just like property taxes.

Now that it's twice its original size with a budget bigger by \$450,000, the CBD must hire a new leader. Executive Director Daniel Hurtado announced his retirement, effective Aug. 30. Hurtado has been the CEO since the CBD's inception in 2006. The Extra's calls to him about his future plans were not returned. ■